

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in reply to the Office Action mailed November 24, 2009.

In the Office Action, claims 1-6, 8, 10, 11, and 48-51 are listed as pending, no claims are listed as withdrawn from consideration and claims 1-6, 8, 10, 11, and 48-51 are listed as rejected. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and entry of the foregoing amendments.

The Examiner has rejected claim 51 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner states that claim 51 recites the limitation “L is NRSO₂” but that there is insufficient antecedent basis in claim 1 for this limitation. Applicants have amended claim 51 to delete “NRSO₂”.

Applicants have also amended claim 51 to insert “-“ before “NRC(O)-“ as suggested by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants believe that claims 1-6, 8, 10, 11, and 48 and 50-51 are in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

No additional claims fees are due for the instant amendment since the total number of claims after entry of the amendments hereinabove is not more than the total number of claims that Applicants have paid for to date.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would advance the condition of the instant application for allowance, Applicants invite the Examiner to call Applicants’ agent at the number noted below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 11, 2010

/Gayle O'Brien/

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